

INTERNATIONAL LAKE SUPERIOR BOARD OF CONTROL

<http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Storage/HH/IJC/Superior/index.shtml>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 1, 2003
Contact: Carl Woodruff
Hydraulic Engineer, Great Lakes H&H Office
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District
(313) 226-2202
e-mail: Carl.L.Woodruff@usace.army.mil

LAKE SUPERIOR OUTFLOW CONDITIONS

The International Lake Superior Board of Control, under the authority granted to it by the International Joint Commission, has set the Lake Superior outflow to 1,910 cubic meters per second (m^3/s) (67.5 thousand cubic feet per second (tcfs)) for the month of May. This is the outflow recommended by the regulation plan for the month of May and is an increase from the April outflow of 1,780 m^3/s (62.9 tcfs).

The May outflow will be released by discharging about 1,796 m^3/s (63.4 tcfs) through the three hydropower plants and passing most of the remaining flow through the control structure at the head of the St. Marys rapids. The gate setting of the control structure will be maintained at the existing setting equivalent to one-half gate open (four gates open 25 cm, or about 10 inches each). There will be no change to the setting of Gate #1 that supplies the Fishery Remedial Works.

The water supplies for both Lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron were below their April averages. This past month the level of Lake Superior rose by about the usual amount for April. Currently, the Lake Superior level is about 20 cm (8 inches) below its long-term average beginning of May level and about 9 cm (4 inches) below the level recorded last year. The level of Lake Superior is now 7 cm (3 inches) below its chart datum level. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron rose by 9 cm (4 inches) this past month, less than its usual amount for April. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron is about 61 cm (24 inches) below its long-term average beginning of May level, and is now about 28 cm (11 inches) below the level recorded last year. Lakes Michigan-Huron's level is now 14 cm (6 inches) below its chart datum level, but is still 19 cm (7 inches) above its record low beginning-of-May level. The Board continues to monitor conditions both on Lake Superior and downstream and will advise the International Joint Commission accordingly on those conditions.

Colonel Mark A. Roncoli, Commander, Chicago District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is the Alternate United States Board Member. Mr. Carr McLeod is the Board Member for Canada.

For further information please contact Carl Woodruff as indicated above.

The Internet homepage at <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/> provides access to additional information.